(c) if so, what are the detailg there' of?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRl MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Visit of the curators of world, museums ! to Indian museums

*237. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY; Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state;

(a) whether some senior curatorsof some of the well knowr museums at the world visited Indian museums re-cently;

(b) If so, what is their impression on conditions of Indian museums, method of their upkeep, manner of display of art objects etc; and

(c) what is the reaction of Govern ment on their observations?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The impression as reported appears to indicate that the conditions are pitiable, museums are in shambles, lack air-conditioning arid display is unsatisfactory.

(c) The observations expressed about museums in India are highly exaggerated.

India's initiative for long term settlement of Afghanistan problem

*238. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA; *Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are taking any initiative with other countries for a long term settlement of the Afghanistan problem; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) and (b) Government have been Jn touch with all concerned including all sections of Afghan opinion^ Government have consistently called for strict imple* mentation of the Geneva accords by aU signatories as an essential step iri seeking a political solution based on existing re* alities and ensuring the sovereignty, integrity, non-aligned status and independence of Afghanistan.

Common core for development of a National Curricular framework for school stage

*239. SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA:
SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE;

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 234 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 10th May, 1989 and state:

(a) whether the National Council of Educational Research and Training had developed a National Curricular Fram* work for School stage which contains a common core having the content essential to nurture national identity;

(b) if so, what are these components of the common core and also the curriculum guidelines; and

(c) whether the States have been urged to use NCERTs curriculum guidelines, syllabi and text-books for different stages of school education; if so, what has been the response till date thereto state-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER); (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

Common core far development of a National Curricular framework for school stage

The National policy on Education (NPE) 1986 envisages a National system of education based on a national Curricular framework which contains a common core alongwith other components that are flexible.